

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A composition for organ preservation, comprising an inulin type fructan as an active ingredient in an amount effective for preservation of the organ, wherein the composition comprises:

(a) inulin type fructan 3.5 - 300 g/L;

(b) Na^+ 5 - 150 mM;

(c) K^+ 5 - 150 mM;

and

(d) at least one component selected from the group consisting of Cl^- , HCO_3^- , CO_3^{2-} , organic acids, and organic acid anions 10 - 150 mM.

2. (Original) The composition for organ preservation according to claim 1, wherein the inulin type fructan is a mixture of two or more inulin type fructans selected from inulin type fructans having a degree of polymerization of 3 to 6.

3. (Original) The composition for organ preservation according to claim 1, wherein the inulin type fructan is 1-kestose.

4. (Original) The composition for organ preservation according to claim 1, wherein the inulin type fructan is nystose.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The composition for organ preservation according to claim 1, which further comprises at least one of:

(e) Mg^{2+} 0 - 20 mM;

(f) Ca^{2+} 0 - 5 mM;

(g) H_2PO_4^- and/or HPO_4^{2-} 0 - 150 mM;

and

(h) hydroxyethyl starch 0 - 100 g/L.

7. (Previously Presented) The composition for organ preservation according to claim 1, for suppressing or improving hypofunction of and damage to an organ during an organ transplantation process.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for preserving an organ, comprising the step of bringing an effective amount for organ preservation of the composition for organ preservation according to claim 1 into contact with an organ.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said contact is carried out by perfusing the organ with the composition for organ preservation.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for suppressing hypofunction of and damage to an organ during an organ transplantation process, or improving hypofunction of an organ during an organ transplantation process, said method comprising the step of bringing an effective amount for suppression or improvement of the composition for organ preservation according to claim 1 into contact with an organ.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said organ is selected from the group consisting of kidney, liver, heart, lung, and pancreas.

12. to 17. (Cancelled)

18. (New) The method according to claim 8 wherein said composition is cooled to 0 to 4°C prior to said contact.